

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America (15)

INCOMING

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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DE RUESEI 1034 2381840
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O R 261819Z AUG 71 ZFF-4
FM AMCONSUL RECIFE
TO RUESUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE 816
INFO RUESUA/AMEMBASSY OFFICE RIO DE JANEIRO 5571
RUESUP/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 209
ZEN/AMCONSUL SALVADOR (BY POUCH)
BT
~~SECRET~~ RECIFE 1034

POL 23-8

CONTR 5520
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NOTE: THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITTED FROM CONGEN RECIFE FACILITIES FOR CONSULATE SALVADOR.

SUB: ARRESTS IN SALVADOR MAY LEAD TO CAPTURE OF LAMARCA

1. AFTER HEARING REPORTS OF IMPRISONMENT AND DEATH OF IMPORTANT SUBVERSIVES IN SALVADOR NIGHT OF AUGUST 19-20, AMCONSUL EO25x1 CONVERSED AT LENGTH WITH AIR FORCE COMANDO COSTEIRO G-2 COLONEL EVANDRO DE LIMA ARAUJO (PROTECT SOURCE) AT CONSUL'S RESIDENCE AUGUST 25. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED BY THE COLONEL.

2. ON OR ABOUT AUGUST 6, UNITS OF SALVADOR CODI (CENTRO DE OPERACOES DE DEFESA INTERNA) CAPTURED MEMBER MR-8, KNOWN BY CODE NAME "ROCHA." UNIDENTIFIED MAN ACCOMPANYING ROCHA OPENED FIRE AND ESCAPED AS AUTHORITIES RELUCTANT RETURN FIRE FOR FEAR WOUNDING BYSTANDERS IN CONJESTED DOWNTOWN SALVADOR. AFTER INTENSIVE INTERROGATION BY LIMA ARAUJO, ROCHA CONFESSED CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO TERRORIST LEADER AND FORMER ARMY CAPTAIN CARLOS LAMARCA, ADMITTING HE HAD ADVISED LAMARCA IT SAFE FOR HIM AND APPROXIMATELY 10 MEMBERS HIS GROUP COME SALVADOR. THIS GROUP APPARENTLY ARRIVED BAHIA ABOUT JULY 25.

3. ACTING ON LEAD PROVIDED BY ROCHA, FEDERAL POLICE AND ARMY G-2 UNITS SURROUNDED MR-8 SAFEHOUSE IN PITUBA NEIGHBORHOOD OF SALVADOR AT 0530 HOURS AUGUST 20. FIVE PEOPLE FOUND IN SAFEHOUSE: LAMARCA'S MISTRESS YARA YAVELBERG (PHONETIC), SMANJC ANOTHER GIRL, GIRL'S SISTER AND A COOK. LATTER TWO REPORTEDLY NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. YARA IDENTIFIED AS MEMBER MR-8 AND FORMER MEMBER VAR-PALMARES AND VPR IN SAO PAULO WHO MET LAMARCA WHILE BOTH STUDYING AT UNIVERSITY THERE. A BRILLIANT THEORETICIAN AND MILITANT SUBVERSIVE, ACCORDING TO SOURCE IT REPORTEDLY WAS YARA WHO PERSUADED LAMARCA TO DESERT ARMY AND JOIN HER IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. SHE ABANDONED HER SAO PAULO PHYSICIAN HUSBAN AND TWO CHILDDREN TO TAKE UP WITH LAMARCA.

4. ALL OCCUPANTS SAFEHOUSE WITH EXCEPTION OF YARA SURRENDERED PROMPTLY. YARA LOCKED HERSELF IN SERVANT'S BATHROOM AND AGREED LIVE HERSELF UP ONLY AFTER THREE TEAR GAS GRENADES THROWN THROUGH WINDOW. WHEN AUTHORITIES OPENED BATHROOM DOOR SHE SHOT HERSELF IN CHEST AND DIED SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

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Declassified
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05-15-2015

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5. IN SAFEHOUSE AUTHORITIES FOUND PROPAGANDA AND PERSONAL LETTERS FROM LAMARCA TO YARA DATED AS RECENTLY AS 5 AND 6 AUGUST. DOCUMENTS INDICATED GROUP INTENDED HIDE OUT IN SALVADOR AND ALSO PREPARE FOR RURAL GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES. FROM DOCUMENTS AND TESTIMONY OF ROCHA AND MAN CAPTURED DURING RAID, AUTHORITIES CONCLUDE LAMARCA PRESENTLY IN INTERIOR OF BAHIA, PROBABLY IN VICINITY OF FEIRA DE SANTANA. CODI HAS MOUNTED OPERATION CAPTURE LAMARCA AND NOW BELIEVES HE SURROUNDED WITH ONLY 40 PERCENT CHANCE ESCAPE.

6. COLONEL LIMA ARAUJO SAID YARA WAS MAJOR INFLUENCE IN LAMARCA'S LIFE AND IDEOLOGICAL FORMATION, AND THAT WHEN LAMARCA LEARNS OF HER DEATH HE WILL BECOME DEEPLY DISTURBED AND POSSIBLY MORE VULNERABLE TO CAPTURE. THE COLONEL ALSO BELIEVES YARA WAS MORE INFLUENTIAL WITHIN SUBVERSIVE ELITE THAN LAMARCA HIMSELF AND THAT, WHILE LAMARCA'S ELIMINATION WOULD HAVE GREATER PUBLIC IMPACT, YARA'S DEATH IS MORE CRIPPLING TO SUBVERSIVE MOVEMENT ITSELF.

7. CONSULATE SALVADOR EO25x1 CONTINUING TO MONITOR DEVELOPMENTS. WILL ADVISE. GP-1.

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